

GHA Class Choices 2015

July 2015 is an exciting time for students lucky enough to be attending the Governor's Honors Academy at Fairmont State University. There is a wide variety of titillating classes in both the Intensive and Broad-based categories, and you will enroll in one of each.

Intensive classes go more deeply into areas in which you already have a knowledge base. Broad-based courses are shorter in length and do not require previous experience with the subject matter. The broad-based courses should not be in the field of your major (intensive) class. For example, if you take an intensive math class, your broad-based course may not be in the math field. Actually, it is a good idea to take a course in the Arts and Humanities from the broad-based offerings if your intensive class falls into the Math/Science/Technology category.

Directions for choosing classes will accompany the electronic form that will be posted soon. May 26 is the magic date for enrolling. The form will go live at 5 p.m., and you are to enroll immediately. Timing is important since classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

INTENSIVE COURSES

Math/Science/Technology

Breaking the Mold: Discovering Ways to Be Who I Want to Be.

In this course, we will be tapping into uncharted territory of our brain through programming. Programming is one of the most valuable skills an emerging adult can have in our society. Even more valuable than this skill are the thought processes and perspectives gained. By being able to view obstacles in life with unique eyes, you can stand out the rest and will have the tools to reach and maintain a "Sustainable Life". While learning how to use the programming language, MatLab, we will be examining real life scenarios from angles that allow you to have a better understanding of the problem, resulting in individualized solutions. **Cody Hood**



Cody Hood is currently a graduate student at West Virginia University. He recently completed his master's degree in mathematics and will be beginning his Ph.D. in the fall. He received his Bachelors of Science in Math in 2013, also at WVU. This is Cody's second year teaching at the Governor's Honors Academy and wasn't going to let anything come between him and being able to experience such an extraordinary adventure a second time. While being being a student, Cody has also worked in the math learning center, taught business calculus, calculus one and math workshop at WVU. In addition to teaching at GHA this summer, Cody is most excited about his upcoming nuptials June 14th.

Science Sustains Us; What Sustains Science?

Most students know that the last step in the scientific method is communicating the results, but do most students realize how important communication is to sustaining science as a whole? In order to create sustainable life, communication is necessary, specifically in the STEM fields. If you are interested in learning how to properly write abstracts and labs reports that will make you a minority in college science classes, or give formal and informal presentations about science in a fun, interactive environment, then this class is for you!

You will not just sharpen your scientific communication skills throughout this course, but you will apply what you learn by collaborating to simulate a colony on Mars; join this class to learn how to communicate and practice the application of your new skills. **Maria Miller**



Maria Miller graduated with a BA in English and MA in secondary education from West Virginia University in May of 2014. She is currently employed in Hancock County at Weir High School as an eleventh grade English and Advanced Placement biology educator. She has previously worked as a resident assistant at GHA in the past, and she looks forward to working as a faculty member at GHA this July.

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The Biology of Sustaining Life with YouTube

There are problems that face humanity every day. Leading minds work diligently to treat diseases, cure ailments, lower carbon dioxide emissions, create efficient sources of energy, and otherwise create a sustainable living for humanity.



This course will focus on how these things are done, and will also provide you with a unique experience in addressing the issues yourself. You will be provided the background and opportunity to design new treatments, cures, and solutions to the problems that face the modern world. You will also determine what it means to attain a sustainable life and a sustainable future for humanity, as well as the cost of achieving it. YouTube will be used as a teaching and learning tool for biology before students solve problems of the world. Do you want to cure diseases? Do you want to solve problems with global warming? **Nick Wilbur**

Nick Wilbur is a graduate student at West Virginia University where he researches Biology and Biology Education in post-secondary students. Nick has worked as a Middle School Science Teacher, Track and Field Coach, Maryland State Park Ranger, and is also an Appalachian Wilderness Survival Expert. He has undergraduate degrees in both Biology and Environmental Science and plans to pursue his Ph.D. in Biology at Purdue University starting this Fall. This is his 5th year teaching for the Governor's Honors Academy

The New Math: Set Theory, Combinatorics, and Games

One aspect of the sustainable life that has come up recently is the United States' ability to sustain the American way of life. The United States is faced with a variety of competitors in the global marketplace, and the education system in the U.S. Sustainability of the American lifestyle also came into question during the Cold War. Then, an initiative called the new math, and today an initiative called common core are two responses to concern about American preeminence in mathematical and scientific fields.



We will replicate the underlying ideas of these initiative – namely that students need to understand theoretical underpinnings of mathematics. We will focus on topics much more challenging than those covered in the standard high school curriculum, or even in the calculus sequence. We will look at topics including set theory, modern algebra, theory of games, and combinatorics. Good at math? This class is for you. **Doug Squire**

Doug Squire, who is from Charleston, and a Nitro High graduate, attended GHA in 1998 at WVU, and has taught at GHA since 2011. He has a B.A. and an M.S. in mathematics from WVU. Doug has been on the mathematics faculty at WVU since 2006 and is the Resident Faculty Leader in one of WVU's residential colleges. In 2010, he won the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award, and in 2011, he won the WVU Foundation Award for Outstanding Teaching. He was debate team captain at WVU and has coached debate both at WVU and Pace Academy in Atlanta, GA. He is coauthor of the textbook *Applications of Calculus*. He likes to play racquetball and ski and is a huge WVU fan.

There's an App for That! - An App-driven Approach to Learning Computer Programming

If you're like most students, you use "apps" on a daily basis. New apps are popping up so rapidly that the Apple Company trademarked the tagline "There's an app for that" to market its App Store. Have you ever thought about creating your own app? App is simply short for application, or software program application.



In this class, you will be introduced to fundamental programming logic concepts using complete, working, real-world apps programmed in the Visual Basic (VB) language. By the end of the course, you will apply the programming concepts learned to create your own app. This course will also explore the plethora of apps available today and how they are used to support "The Sustainable Life" from a personal and professional perspective. **Rebecca Giorcelli**

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Dr. Rebecca Giorcelli, Associate Professor of Information Systems Management, serves as the Assessment Director for the School of Business at Fairmont State University and teaches undergraduate and graduate classes. She earned her B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from West Virginia University. She received the 2010 Fairmont State University Outstanding Faculty Achievement Award, the 2011 Harold and Roselyn Straight Teaching Award, the 2012 Fairmont State Foundation Fellowship Award, and the 2013 Regional Service and Engagement/Economic Development Award.

Dr. Giorcelli is an active researcher and has been awarded over \$525,000 in research grant funding. Prior to her arrival at FSU, she gained over 10 years of experience in research and development through positions held at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Institute for Scientific Research, Inc. (ISR).

The story of DNA: How DNA has progressed and sustained science since its discovery

We often think of the sciences as living in their own distinct worlds within convenient boundaries. However, the various fields of science are more connected than we realize. This course will use DNA as a vessel to explore a variety of fields of science. We will spend time learning about chemistry, biology, biochemistry, genetics, molecular biology, and nanotechnology.

We will learn about how DNA's structure was discovered and the controversy surrounding subsequent events. The course will focus on who just the single molecule of DNA has single handedly sustained science as a whole. From genetics, to medicinal chemistry, to nanotechnology...DNA has been a constant presence throughout the decades of scientific discovery and advancement. **Michael Vannatta**



Michael Vannatta was born and raised in Great Falls, Montana. He entered the U.S. Navy in 1996, was honorably medically discharged in 1997, and was permanently retired in 2003. In 2002 he received Bachelor degrees in Biology and Chemistry from Carroll College, a small liberal arts school in Helena, Montana. He earned his Ph.D. in Bioanalytical Chemistry from the University of Washington in 2009. He came to WVU in 2009 as a Chemical Education post-doctorate researcher and was a Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry from 2010 - 2014. Dr. Vannatta moved back to Montana in late 2014 and now works for the state. He is a single father to two children: Cole (8) and Penny (6). He is an avid baseball fan, enjoys the outdoors, and hopes to do more traveling in the future. He is passionate about science and science education and loves discussing it with anyone.

Arts/Humanities Intensive

Beyond Words=BEST: Exploring yourself as a scientific machine and metaphoric communicator

Explore yourself as an incredible functioning machine! Enjoy a fun, healthy and intellectually analytical approach as you connect your body, mind and emotions through movement communication. Movement phrases will be created from different assignments that will explore issues such as science concepts, literature and music. The analysis of Body, Energy, Space and Time in the movement assignments will be used to form specific ideas that will be communicated through the body. No prior dance or movement is needed! This movement is a result of each what each individuals body and mind has to offer instantly.

This is an opportunity for one of the BEST (Body, Energy, Space, Time) experiences possible to aid you in having a healthy, well-rounded sustainable life! Bring clothing that will be comfortable to move in and let's get started!!!

Toneta Akers-Toler

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Toneta Akers-Toler is the Founder and Managing Artistic Director of West Virginia's only professional touring dance company in the history of the state. Toneta's recent awards include the 2005 WV Governor's Arts Award for "Excellence in the Arts," and 2010 WV Governor's Award to the WV Dance Company for Excellence in "Arts and Education". Toneta graduated from the Conservatory of Performing Arts at Point Park College and continued intensive study in New York City and at the American Dance Festival held at Duke University. She served as Master Teacher at all the West Virginia Department of Education's Fine Arts Teachers Academies. On tour with the West Virginia Dance Company she has taught extensively throughout West Virginia, 14 other states and in Brazil at the Federal University at Espirito Santo. She enjoys sharing the first form of communication, which is movement with dancers and non-dancers alike.

Bon Appetite

Join us on a journey beyond pizza, fries and Coke to investigate the wonderful world of food! Food connects us to the past, present and future, and is essential to the human experience. It defines families, individuals, and cultures, and is at the center of contemporary debates and progressive social movements. We will consider the culture, politics, and science of food through literature, films, discussion, small-group projects, and . . . eating of course! Topics may include sustainable agriculture, organic farming, food deserts, GMOs, and the role of food in communities. Pull up a chair and dig in! **Sarah Tomasweski**



Sarah Tomasweski holds a Ph.D. in musicology from Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). Her research concerns immigration history, fashion, and nineteenth-century salon culture in the United States. Sarah has taught applied flute, music history, pop culture, and music appreciation courses at CWRU, Ohio University, and Parsons. The New School for Design. She is currently living in New York City where she works in the education department at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum. This is Sarah's third summer with the Governor's Honors Academy.

Building a Sustainable Life: Music and Social Justice

Music in history has sometimes been used as a weapon; it operated as tool for propaganda under the Nazi and soviet administrations, as a means of demoralizing POWs during the Vietnam War, and even as an instrument of torture in the American punishment system. But music has also been used for defense and towards political advocacy; it cultivated a sense of perseverance in concentration camps, helped reconcile a new understanding of the world after the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and became an especially important tool for the Civil Rights Movement and Vietnam War protests.

Students in this course will think carefully about the audiences used music as political platforms in history in order to gain insight into the humanity of music making and listening. We will also practice thinking critically about morality and ethics and, to that end, develop an advocacy campaign to address the needs of their own communities. What issues are important to you? How could you use sound to cultivate a sustainable life for those around you? Come prepared to work as a team to promote a cause of your choice. **Kelly St. Pierre**



Kelly St. Pierre holds a Ph.D. in Musicology from Case Western Reserve University. Her research explores the earliest scholarship around Czech composer Bedřich Smetana to reveal the ways it generated political myths about him and his works. It also examines how these myths were adapted in twentieth-century scholarship to suit the ideologies of the Communist administration. Her book, *Bedřich Smetana: Myth, Music, and Propaganda*, is forthcoming with the University of Rochester Press. Kelly currently teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in music history at Case Western Reserve and the Cleveland Institute of Music. She will begin work this fall as Visiting Assistant Professor at Wichita State University.

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By Your Powers Combined!

GOOOOOOOOOOOO PLANET! Grab your green mullet wig and follow suit after epic 90's superhero Captain Planet and his planetees!!!! We'll take a look at sustainability through green laws, green treaties, green building, green products and maybe even a little green peace. We'll look at wars over water, oil, mountains, energy, and valuable natural resources. We'll survey artists who moved out of their urban studios to venture into rural uncharted areas to meet nature on its own terms and dimensions.

As a class we'll design and create our own social and visual responses to our findings. So, roll up your sleeves and get your superhero capes on because by your powers combined...We can do this!!! **Karen Gergely**

Karen Gergely is a Morgantown West Virginia native and is a practicing Social Artist in Shepherdstown WV. She holds a Masters Degree in Fine Arts from The University of Cincinnati DAAP and has been teaching in the Department of Contemporary Art and Theater at Shepherd University and directing their Phase 2 Gallery for the past several years. Karen is one of three founding members of collabAttack, an artist collective that works to create art in partnership with small communities creating and facilitating a force for positive action. Karen also loves spending adventure time thru-hiking long trails and crossing large landmasses on bicycle!

How much are YOU willing to give?

It is a question this generation of students will have to answer, and perhaps, to put it bluntly, the future and sustainability of this country as we know it will depend on the answer—How much freedom are you willing to give up for security? That's just one of the questions we will address in this class based on the Bill of Rights.

This class will be heavily discussion based, and we will tackle virtually every hot button issue of our time. Actions/decisions of the Court in interpreting the Bill of Rights will be part of our discussion, but far more of the class will be spent discussing what rights and ways of thinking about freedoms are truly important to our futures and which are perhaps remnants of our past. If you want to have a well-thought-out opinion deepened by an intellectual discussion and challenged by other bright students who think the opposite, take this class.



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You are encouraged to bring the full force of your viewpoints to class, and the class will be raucous at times, but that may be the way our forefathers intended. Any nation that sees itself as great and any people that wish to sustain freedom need to have such continuing and omnipresent discussions. **Dan Hollis**

This will be **Dan Hollis'** 14th year with GHA. He is a professor in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall University. Hollis is the 2012 Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and Council for Advancement and Support of Education West Virginia Professor of the Year and the 2011 recipient of Marshall University's Marshall and Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher Award. He has been with the School of Journalism and Mass Communications since 1999 and primarily teaches JMC 101: Media Literacy and JMC 402: Mass Communications Law. Professor Dan also regularly produces award-winning video projects on a full range of topics including the roller derby, road bowling and glass making. His videos can be found on www.youtube.com/danhollisvideo.

The Examined Life: Philosophy, Virtue, and Happiness

Have you ever wondered what constitutes a happy life? About what constitutes a virtuous life? About whether it is possible to combine happiness and virtue? About whether it is possible to sustain happiness and virtue in the midst of misery and vice? Humans have been wrestling with these fundamental questions since the beginning of literature and philosophy. In this course, we will explore what some of the greatest thinkers from the world of Greco-Roman antiquity have written about the nature of the good life and reach our own conclusions about how one can create and sustain a good life in 21st century America. **Matt Hokom**

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Matt Hokom is a professor at Fairmont State University, where he teaches a variety of courses from freshman composition to world literature. His primary professional intellectual interests are in 19th and 20th century American Literature, particularly the work of Willa Cather, and in the literature and culture of Greco-Roman antiquity. As a dilettante, he also studies world religions and the ancient Greek language when time permits.

The Green Hills of Wonder

Not long ago, folks in these hills knew what to do if a witch spelled their cow, whether to plant vegetables in the light or dark of the moon, why the rose is surrounded by briars, and what it meant if a recently deceased person reappeared to offer help. Appalachia's rich folklore and fantastic ideas have been disappearing from the oral tradition. Why and when did some of these beliefs and customs disappear - and are we in danger of losing our future by not adequately sustaining our cultural stories today? Our course will study the vulnerability of the region's ballads, signs, mysteries, monsters, and ghost tales to see how the telling of past and present stories makes our identities sustainable. **Adam Booth.**



Adam Booth's storytelling blends traditional folklore, music, and an awareness of contemporary Appalachia. His telling appearances include Teller-In-Residence at the International Storytelling Center, resident at the Banff (Alberta) Spoken Word program, and multiple events in thirteen states. Equally at home as a teller and educator, his research and presentations have included the Berea Appalachian Sound Archives Fellowship, Ghost Ranch, the National Storytelling Conference, and the Appalachian Studies Association Conference. He teaches Appalachian storytelling at Shepherd University. His stories and recordings have been honored with a Parents' Choice Silver Honor, Storytelling World Awards Honors, the NSN's J.J. Reneaux Mentorship Grant, and four West Virginia Liars' Contest wins.

Writing the Unreal: Fantasy, Magical Realism, and Creative Writing

This course will examine several stories from genres and/or traditions usually labeled as "fantasy" or "magical realism," such as Franz Kafka's *Metamorphosis*. Students will explore the decisions that authors make about the use of the fantastic and both the freedoms and limitations the mode imposes.



We will pay particular attention to the ways in which Magical Realism can provide imaginative and dynamic ways to test our ideas of what is sustainable. The course will then focus on the students' own writing of short narrative using magical or fantastic elements. The ensuing discussions and workshops will put considerable weight on the difference between conventions to be embraced and clichés to be avoided. **James Matthews**

James Matthews is Professor of English and Director of the Writing Center at Fairmont State University. He has been teaching writing for twenty-five years, thirteen of which have been in West Virginia. His short stories and essays have appeared in several national and regional publications.

The Trouble with Normal (cy): Intro to Disability Studies and Pop Culture

Have you ever been unable to enter a building? Do you have difficulty seeing the board, or hearing a teacher, in class? If so, do you feel like you are still "normal?" What is "abnormal," anyways? In this class we will look at how science and culture combine to create the idea of "normal" human bodies in American pop culture, and think about how disability is positioned in and against our conceptions of normalcy and sustainable life.



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We'll be in conversation with voices from a wide range of disabled voices and allies, including Presidents Lincoln and Eisenhower, selections from bestselling novels *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* and *Good Kings Bad Kings*, Broadway performances such as *The Elephant Man* and *Spider-man: Turn Off the Dark*, and a variety of TV and movies, from shows like *American Horror Story* to disability short films. Over our three weeks, we will explore how the human body leaves the realm of medical science and comes to be understood in our daily culture, and think about how disability rights is often underrepresented as a social justice movement. **Sam Yates**

Samuel Yates is currently pursuing his doctorate at the George Washington University as a Humanity In Action Senior Fellow, where he researches the aesthetics of disability and performance in popular culture. He received his M.Phil in Theatre and Performance Studies from Trinity College Dublin (IE) as a Mitchell Scholar, and completed his B.A. in English and Dramatic Arts from Centre College (USA) as a John C. Young Scholar. Sam has previously worked as a dramaturg, playwright, and performer with the Abbey Theatre, the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, The Samuel Beckett Centre, and New Harmony Theater, among others. When he's not teaching or writing, Sam can be found exploring DC museums, training for his first marathon, and trying new vegetarian recipes. He is an alumnus of WVGH 2007, and is excited to return for second summer as a faculty member.



Yes, Your Honor!

Imagine a world without laws. Would people stop at red lights? What would you do if someone entered your house without permission? How would you respond if your bank suddenly "lost" all your money? Clearly, life as we know it would not remain intact for very long.

This course will simulate a civil wrongful death trial, from beginning to end, so that students can gain a better understanding of how the law and trial advocacy are used to make life more sustainable. All students will play the role of attorney in a case where a grieving widow has filed a lawsuit against a somewhat questionable doctor who failed to warn the widow's now deceased husband that his anti-hallucination medicine could cause heart

problems. After meeting with their "clients," students will uncover information about the case and negotiate with opposing counsel in an effort to reach a settlement. The class will end with a full-blown mock trial.

Throughout this three-week-long simulation, we will also discuss different ways the law and trial advocacy make life more sustainable. For example, how does the law impact our day-to-day interactions with other citizens? If someone wrongs us, what legal options are available? What role do attorneys play in using the trial system to make life fairer? Come answer these questions while channeling your inner Johnny Cochran in this fun, fast-paced course that is perfect for those who are interested in the law and political science. **Chris Edwards**

Chris Edwards is an attorney and alumnus of the West Virginia Governor's Honors Academy (class of 2005). He most recently worked for Bowles Rice, LLP, a full-service regional law firm, where his practice focused on litigation, workplace safety and education law. At GHA he will teach classes on trial advocacy and United States Supreme Court jurisprudence. Chris is extremely excited to return to GHA for the first time since he participated as a student, and hopes to give this year's students a glimpse into what it's like to work as a trial attorney.

Broad-based courses continue on the next page.

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BROAD-BASED COURSES

Math/Science/Technology

From Quantum Mechanics to Quantum Dots: How the Study of the Small Has Sustained Science

Most people think of “Quantum Mechanics” as being extremely complicated. The mathematic equations behind the theory are quite intense, however, the behaviors for which the equations represent are everywhere in our daily lives. We will learn the basics of quantum mechanics, which blossomed during the 1920s. We will focus on the structures of atoms and their associated sub-atomic particles and how they behave. The second half of the course will delve into the relatively new field of Nanotechnology.

We will learn about the unique properties that matter exhibits at the nano-scale and will learn about amazing materials called quantum dots. Quantum theory revolutionized science and has sustained the fruitful field of research for the decades since its discovery. Computers, satellites, and nearly every other technological advancement has resulted from the sustained study and unraveling of the mysteries of the quantum world. **Mike Vannatta**

It All Started with a Big Bang—(But Sheldon Wasn’t There)

Arthur C. Clarke said, “Either we are alone in this universe or we are not. Both are equally terrifying.” The universe is a startling yet beautiful question that is waiting to be answered. Throughout this class, you will attempt to start answering those questions. You will learn about how the universe was created, how it sustains itself, and how life on Earth is sustained in our solar system. The sustainable life is a theme that is not only relevant on planet Earth, but also, throughout the entire universe. In this course, you will be collaboratively working to ask and answer questions about the universe and to figure out what kinds of life forms may exist in on other planets throughout the universe. Join this class to have your creativity and curiosity sparked and nourished! **Maria Miller**

Make Some Noise!

This class focuses on political protest and Civil Rights advocacy during the Vietnam War. We’ll explore moments like Jimi Hendrix’ performance of the national anthem at Woodstock and the release of Aretha Franklin’s “Respect” to learn how people have harnessed “noisy” sounds, visuals, and texts as political tools in history. In the end, students will produce a podcast that examines politically charged music from their own time and place. What is today’s protest music? What do its sounds reveal about the expectations—sonically or socially—of contemporary listeners? And what does it claim needs to change towards cultivating a sustainable life in America today? **Kelly St. Pierre**

Mathematical Logic: What does math have to do with philosophy, politics, and debate?

If you are attending this summer’s GHA, you are likely among the very best in your class. You are at the top of your class. When you go to college, classes tend to be different. A literal interpretation of the sustainable life for a GHA student is to sustain his/her position at the top of their class. In order to do that, analyzing math and debate beyond what is typically required becomes important. It turns out that there is more to math than addition, multiplication, polynomials, and graphs. A large part of mathematics is logic and arguments. In this class, we will examine the fundamentals of symbolic logic. We will take arguments, analyze them, and decide whether they are valid or not. We will look further at how to improve our own arguments made in speeches, papers, and casual conversation. **Doug Squire**

Smart Homes, Smart Cars, and Computer Interfaces for Reading Minds: A Look at Emerging Technologies That Are Changing the World

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Do you ever wonder what the future holds? IBM provides predictions for you with 5 in 5 – five technology innovations that will change the way we learn, work, live and play within the next five years. Recent predictions explore the idea that everything will “learn”. Imagine if your house could learn to maintain itself, or your car could learn to drive itself, or your classroom could get to know you to determine the best way to teach you.

This course explores this new era of technology, where machines learn, reason, and engage with us in a more natural and personalized way. Class discussions will also focus on how emerging technologies are promoting “The Sustainable Life” and how misuse of these technologies, including the social web, can potentially destroy it. **Rebecca Giorcelli**

Sustaining Life with YouTube , Biology and Technology

There are problems that face humanity every day. Leading minds work diligently to treat diseases, cure ailments, lower carbon dioxide emissions, create efficient sources of energy, and otherwise create a sustainable living for humanity. This course will focus on how these things are done, and will also provide you with a unique experience in addressing the issues yourself. You will be provided the background and opportunity to design new treatments, cures, and solutions to the problems that face the modern world. You will also determine what it means to attain a sustainable life and a sustainable future for humanity, as well as the cost of achieving it. YouTube will be used as a teaching and learning tool for biology before students solve problems of the world. Do you want to cure diseases? Do you want to solve problems with global warming? This class will give you the opportunity to do just that. **Nick Wilbur**

You Can't Make This Stuff Up

Were you ever the “Why Child”? I was. Always wanting to know the reason why something is the way it is or why it works the way it does. Your parents may not like you asking questions like, “Why do I have to make my bed when I’m just going to get into it tonight”, but here we do. This course is an opportunity to question math, science and life in order to better understand it. By using the approach that everything has an reason, we not only will be finding the answers to these questions, but also discovering ways to show why these answers are what they are. In order to be successful in life and achieve a “Sustainable Life”, the question “why” needs to be repeatedly asked. We will be very good at not only asking this question, but also answering it after this course. **Cody Hood**

Arts/Humanities—Broad Based

BEST Adventures: Understanding Your Body through exploring Energy, Space & Time (New Dance)

Experience a fun, healthy and intellectually analytical approach to understanding your body as a high functioning scientific machine. Find out how the principle that function makes form determines the myriad shapes of life, from the earliest single-celled organism to the latest and most complicated animal, YOU! The class will learn a series of physical movement exercises that can be used to sustain health through life. This movement analysis will connect body, mind and emotions.

The class will also explore through movement the body as the instrument of communication using concepts of energy, space and time. Various types of music, sound scores and silence will be used with the movement creations. No prior movement or dance experience is needed! Get ready an adventure that you might just feel is one of the BEST (Body, Energy, Space, Time) of your summer! Bring comfortable clothing to move in and let’s get started! **Toneta Akers-Toler**

45 Words –Spending Three Weeks Talking about Just 45 Words

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution comprises a mere 45 words--45 words that, no matter how brilliantly crafted, are much debated. They make America envied around the world and sometimes divided at home. The rights included in the First Amendment have not only served us extraordinarily well for more than 220 years, but they are essential for our continued existence. For if we are to sustain our democracy, our way of living, the marketplace of ideas guaranteed by the First Amendment is fundamental.

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Former Supreme Court justice William Brennan wrote this nation has a commitment to the idea that debates on public issues should “uninhibited, robust and wide-open.” We’ll take history’s lesson.

Can the Ten Commandments be displayed in the county courthouse? Should the press be allowed to publish government secrets? Just how much freedom of speech do students enjoy in high school?

We’ll wrestle with those issues and dozens more. It’ll be fun, challenging, and perhaps a bit loud and crazy, but it won’t be enough time. **Dan Hollis**

Perfect Strangers

In this high-energy ultra-interactive course, we’ll explore concepts of the sustainable life through heritage, identity, place, home, and the positive social impact we as humans can choose to have on other humans. Get ready to dive into social protests and acts that promote positive change for self and society – especially for those who cannot fight for themselves. We’ll seek to elevate, educate, establish joy and unite people from diverse demographics and perceptions of life through art. We’ll talk Flash Mobs! Happenings! Free Exchange! Social Aesthetics! Improv! Reality TV! So...Come on! Join forces with Perfect Strangers to look at sustainability through creating and preserving relationships + heritage! Oh - we’ll also try to change the world for good...and not evil! **Karen Gergely**

Sustaining America: Cultural Dreamscapes in the United States

When Martin Luther King, Jr. made his famous “I have a dream” speech, he was sharing his dream of a better future for America. How do you think—or dream—about being a citizen in the United States today? In this cultural studies course we will explore various definitions of the American Dream, and ask how the mythology of the American Dream sustains American culture.

As we create our own definition of the American Dream, we’ll be in conversation with voices from America’s past and present: presidents Thomas Jefferson and Barack Obama; poet Langston Hughes and painter Andy Warhol; musicians Lynyrd Skynyrd, Britney Spears, and Kanye West; and TV/Film directors Ryan Murphy and Katherine Bigelow, to name a few. This wide range of pop culture materials will help us to begin thinking about debates surrounding race, LGBTQ rights, immigration, and other contemporary issues that influence conversations about life, citizenship, and the American Dream. **Sam Yates**

The Dreaded Essay

The term “essay” is one that sometimes fills students with dread. However, in its origins, the essay was something very different from what students are now accustomed to in their classwork. The essay, which began with Montaigne in the Renaissance, was originally highly personal, informal, and attempted to link private introspection with larger questions of purpose and meaning. In this course, we will read some of the greatest examples of this genre, discuss what they have to teach us about the human search for sustainable meaning, and create our own personal essays, or attempts, to find and sustain such meaning in and for our lives. **Matthew Hokom**

The Theatre of Knowledge

What is knowledge? How and why do we acquire and attempt to record, protect, and transfer it? How and why do we lose it? How and why do we use – and misuse – it? What are its limits? What are its costs and liabilities? What is the connection between intelligence, education, and knowledge? How does knowledge differ from wisdom? Are there things we can – but shouldn’t – know?

Pull back the curtain to consider these questions (and more) as we examine a variety of plays in a variety of styles - including works by Christopher Marlowe, Henrik Ibsen, and Suzan-Lori Parks - all with an eye toward sustainability and all exploring the nature and function of knowledge throughout history and in our culture today. Along the way, we’ll also

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meet the authors who wrote them, examine the issues and events that helped inspire them, and consider the ways in which knowledge simultaneously works for and against creating and maintaining a sustainable life. **John Shirley**

John Shirley is on special assignment for the dean during the morning classes, so he is teaching only one course. John has taught in public and private high school and college classrooms for the past fifteen years. After attending GHA as a student in 1995, he earned a B.A. in English from Bridgewater College and both an M.Litt. (with a concentration in teaching) and an M.F.A. (with a concentration in directing) in Shakespeare and Renaissance Literature in Performance from Mary Baldwin College. John has a particular interest in looking at themes of damnation and redemption in literature and drama and has developed something of an obsession with Macbeth. He is also a published and produced playwright, an occasional photographer, and a paranormal junkie. In addition to more than ten years inside the classroom, he has been an RA, intern, and program assistant and has served multiple terms as GHA's faculty representative on the WV Governor's Schools Advisory Council.

The United States Supreme Court of Appeals: Making Life More Sustainable Since 1790

The United States Supreme Court of Appeals checks the actions of the President and Congress by drafting judicial opinions. These opinions define the scope of our rights as United States citizens and also explain how specific laws should be applied. This class will analyze some of these opinions in an effort to explore how the Supreme Court has made American life more sustainable. We will first examine how the Court has influenced fundamental issues like freedom of the press, racial segregation, and the right to privacy; we will then discuss why those areas are important to maintaining life as we know it. Students will also explore important subjects that are currently pending before the Court, such as whether a state can constitutionally ban same-sex marriage.

While we will spend time analyzing and discussing important Supreme Court decisions, we will also explore some of these concepts in a creative way, and will dissect some of the more humorous questions that have been posed to the Court, such as whether a tomato is a fruit of a vegetable (yes, the Supreme Court has an opinion on this!) Come learn how the highest court in the land's decisions have made our everyday lives more predictable, consistent, and ultimately, sustainable. **Chris Edwards**

13 Sustainable Things

What do Michael Jackson, T-shirts, and a Spanish salmon farm all have in common? Sustainability. This course will take on thirteen topics in as many days to highlight several interpretations of sustainability. We'll talk about fashion trends and tune in to some of Billboard's top songs of all time to learn about sustained popularity. We'll listen to prolonged silence and sound to hear meaning in monotony. And we'll examine food, the environment, and architecture to discover how each one sustains community. Come prepared to share your creativity, curiosity, and ideas to learn more about what keeps you going! **Sarah Tomaszewski**

Understanding the Art of the Motion Picture

This course will examine major films of the last eighty-five years in terms of the craft of film-making. Students will explore the decisions that directors, cinematographers, designers, and actors make in bringing a cinematic narrative to life. We will also interrogate the ways in which the conventions of film help shape how we understand our own experiences. The films chosen for viewing will feature characters who confront problems connected to the sustainable life. **James Matthews**